



MAIL STOP
AMENDMENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: A.D. Dupree et al. Attorney Docket No.: GGPL122090
Application No.: 10/733,827 Group Art Unit: 3677
Filed: December 11, 2003 Examiner: R.C. Rodriguez
Title: COUPLING DEVICE

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

Claims 1-18 are pending in the present application. In the Restriction Requirement mailed on May 17, 2005, a position was set forth that the application contained three patentably distinct inventions which are Group 1 (Claims 1-6), Group 2 (Claims 7-14), and Group 3 (Claims 15-18).

Applicants elect Group 3 (Claims 15-18), for prosecution on the merits, without prejudice to file divisional applications on the other noted inventions. Applicants hereby make such election without traverse. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney if there are any remaining issues regarding this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

CHRISTENSEN O'CONNOR
JOHNSON KINDNESS^{PLLC}

Brandon C. Stallman
Registration No. 46,468
Direct Dial No. 206.695.1708

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service in a sealed envelope as first class mail with postage thereon fully prepaid and addressed to Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the below date.

Date:

July 18, 2005